20th December 1954]

Opening of a Medical College at Tanjore.

* 443 *Q*.—SRI S. RAMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation was received by the Government for the grant of permission to open a medical college at Tanjore; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The matter is under the consideration of Government."

Amalgamation of private bus services into big viable units.

* 444 *Q*.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has suggested to the State Government that in the matter of issuing bus permits, consideration must be given for constituting viable economic units;

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken on the suggestion;

(*c*) whether it was placed before the State Transport Advisory Committee; and

(*d*) if so, what their recommendation is?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) The Planning Commission recommended in respect of Road Transport Services that it is desirable for the existing private operators' units to amalgamate wherever possible, into big viable units to enable them to achieve better returns and maintain better standards of operation.

" (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) The Government examined the recommendation of the Planning Commission in consultation with the State Transport Advisory Committee. The State Transport Advisory Committee recommended that each unit of passenger transport should consist of not less than 10 buses; that the existing operators of smaller units should be encouraged to amalgamate voluntarily and that operators with buses nearer the mark of ten should be preferred in the matter of grant of new permits. The Government have accepted the recommendation of the State Transport Advisory Committee and have issued orders accordingly."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—" In cases where small fleet-owners refuse to amalgamate, do the Government contemplate bringing forward legislation to compel them to do so? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Not at this stage, Sir. We will have to give a fair trial to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee."

[20th December 1954

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" May I know the number of bus operators who have agreed to amalgamate according to the orders of the Government? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The orders of the Government have been recently issued. I have no information in the matter."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister hopes that there is a possibility of units of small fleet-owners getting amalgamated into one big unit? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Government hope so."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that this policy of the Government will ruin the small operators and squeeze them out of existence? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I do not agree with the view of the hon. Member. The hon. Member is also a member of the State Transport Advisory Committee. He was also present when the decision was taken. We hope that it will not crush the small operators."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I know whether it is not a fact that I presented a dissenting minute to the State Transport Advisory Committee's proceedings? May I also know for what reasons the dissenting minute was not circulated? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Decisions are taken by the whole Committee. The dissenting minute submitted by the hon. Member to the Committee was considered and then only the above decision was taken."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" May I know whether the Government will give new permits to those bus operators who are willing to operate straightaway with a fleet of ten buses? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I will have to examine the question."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" May I know whether, in arriving at a decision, the Government take into consideration public interest and public convenience or the profiteering of a few private individuals? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Government consider that it will be in the interests of the public if road transport services are taken up by operators who have at least ten stage carriages."

20th December 1954]

Sri S. RAMALINGAM :—" ஸார், ஒன்றிரண்டு பஸ்கள் வைத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கும் முதலாளிகள் சர்க்காருடைய உத்தரவினால் பாதிக்கப் பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால், அவர்கள் சர்க்காருக்கு விண்ணப்பம் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதன்மேல் சர்க்கார் என்ன முடிவு எடுத்திருக் கிறார்கள் ?"

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Government have not received any representations till now. They will be considered, if received."

Sri M. PALANIYANDI :—" ஸார், இந்த சிறு மீன்களாகிய சிறு பஸ் முதலாளிகளை பெரிய திமிங்கிலமாகிய பெரிய பஸ்முதலாளிகளுடன் கொண்டுபோய் சேர்ப்பது நல்லதா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The number is restricted to ten."

Electricity schemes under the Five-Year Plan.

* 445 *Q*.—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Electricity schemes under the Five-Year Plan have been finished;

(*b*) how many Engineers were newly taken during 1953–54; and

(*c*) how many workers were retrenched during that year?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Almost all the generation schemes covered by the First Five-Year Plan have been completed and the target of additional generating capacity set under the Plan, viz., 111,000 K.W., is also expected to be reached before the end of this year with the commissioning of the 15,000 K.W. plant under the Madras II Stage Extensions now under erection. The Transmission Lines and Distribution Scheme and the scheme for acquisition of electricity undertakings are in progress. The Periyar generation scheme has just been started.

" (*b*) Forty-nine—consisting of three Assistant Engineers and 46 Junior Engineers appointed under the emergency provisions.

" (*c*) Four thousand five hundred and sixty-four workers. Of these, more than 2,500 have since been re-employed and the rest will also be absorbed as and when vacancies arise, in preference to new recruits. Workers in the Electricity Department are discharged from service on the completion of the specific works for which they were recruited and they are given preference when new works are taken up, if willing and suitable."

Sri N. K. PALANISAMY :—" ஸார், ஐந்தாண்டு திட்டத்தின் கீழ் பல விஸ்தரிப்பு வேலைகள் நடக்கும்போது பல தொழிலாளர்கள் நீக்கப்படு கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அதே சமயத்தில் பல இஞ்சினியர்களை அதிகப்படுத்திக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த மாதிரி தொழிலாளர்களை நீக்கி விட்டு